PETITION FOR THE IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION OF TOLLS ON THE A22/VIA INFANTE DE SAGRES

Addressee: Parliament

Signatories to this petition believe the political decision to introduce tolls on the A22/Via Infante de Sagres represents a historical error of grave consequences to the economic and social development of the Algarve.
The A22/Via Infante de Sagres was built to benefit and improve the quality of life of those who live and work in the Algarve, with a view to aiding social and economic development.
The road does not have a motorway profile and was built outside the SCUT financing model, as more than two-thirds of its construction was paid for by EU funds.
The A22/Via Infante de Sagres was projected as an alternative to the National Road 125, as this coastline road is densely urbanised, has a high road accident and fatality rate and its redevelopment cannot be seen as a solution or an alternative itself.
As expected, the perverse effects of the introduction of this blind measure is a mass move of traffic to the National Road 125, causing enormous traffic congestion and serious mobility problems for the populations, and exponentially increasing the risk of road accidents and deaths on the Algarve's roads.
As a result, this will lead to the rapid degradation in the quality of life of the Algarve population, the strangling of its economy and the deterioration of the conditions that make the region an appealing tourism destination, with tourism being a vital economic industry and source of revenue for the country.
For these reasons, the introduction of tolls on December 8 2011 represented a nasty blow to the lives of individuals, families and businesses, who, together, contribute to the development of the region's economy and society.
Petition signers also believe that the decision to make the A22/Via Infante de Sagres a toll road was taken without considering the opinion of the majority of the population in the Algarve and that the measure is part of a political framework that seems to act without thought of public interest.
This way of governing, ignoring the interests of the local communities, leads to a lack of political trust for local government representatives, contributing to delegitimise and discredit the democratic system.
Therefore, citizens and entities who have signed this petition call for the immediate suspension of tolls on the A22/Via Infante de Sagres by the government.
Furthermore, and exercising their legal rights, they request that the Parliament discusses this matter, proposing that the government corrects its position on this issue.
To sign the petition, click here. (mandatory fields are 'Name', 'Email' and 'B.I.' or passport number number)